passed into law, action would be taken to reorganise the Civil Judicial department so as to fit in with the altered conditions.

Jails.

21. On account of the abolition of the District Jails at Quilon and Alleppey, there was some increase in the number of prisoners admitted into the Central Prison. The administration of the latter continued satisfactory. The earnings from jail manufactures amounted to Rs. 9,700, against Rs. 10,871 in the previous year. His Highness' Government feel that there is room for the development of jail manufactures. Improved looms were supplied during the year and new presses and printing accessories also sanctioned.

Registration.

22. Eight new sub-registry offices were opened during the year; the number of such offices at the close of the year was 59. The total number of documents presented for registration rose by 6 per cent and 99 per cent of the documents were registered on the day of presentation. The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 3,70,122 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,12,350. The percentage of expenditure to gross income was 30, being the lowest on record.

Forests.

23. Forest reserves and unreserved lands.—Twelve new tracts, with an aggregate area of 34 square miles, were proposed for reservation during the year. Six reserves, comprising a total area of 11 square miles, were finally gazetted under Section 18 of the Regulation. The forests in the Cardamom district continued to be under the control of the Superintendent and District Magistrate, Cardamom Hills. The question of transferring these forests from the Cardamom department and placing them under the control of the Conservator of Forests, engaged the consideration of His Highness' Government during the year. It has been since resolved to transfer these forests to the Conservator. The total area of the reserved forests was 2,323 square miles, and that of reserved lands 139 square miles, against 2,305 square miles and 124 square miles respectively on the last day of 1082. The increase in the area of forest reserves was not due to any departure from the policy of restricting the further reservation of timber forests, resolved upon by His Highness' Government in July 1907. The increase was due chiefly to the final notification, under Section 18, of tracts in regard to which action had been already taken, and partly also to the inclusion in the reserves of a few abandoned coffee estates which had been sold for arrears of tax and bought in by Government. Of the 12 new tracts notified for reservation during the year, 8 are intended for fuel and fodder purposes. The forest policy of Government received further consideration during the year and it was decided that forest areas once reserved should not be cancelled except for very cogent reasons, or thrown open to cultivation, and that the reservation of unproductive land and the re-stocking of such land with trees would be difficult and impracticable.

24. Forest Settlement.—The work of forest settlement was attended to by the Division Peishkars. Including the three reserves which were pending settle-

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